

S. RES. 272

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 272, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should remain actively engaged in southeastern Europe to promote long-term peace, stability, and prosperity; continue to vigorously oppose the brutal regime of Slobodan Milosevic while supporting the efforts of the democratic opposition; and fully implement the Stability Pact.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 286—EX-
PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
SENATE THAT THE UNITED
STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN RELATIONS SHOULD
HOLD HEARINGS AND THE SEN-
ATE SHOULD ACT ON THE CON-
VENTION OF THE ELIMINATION
OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINA-
TION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)**

Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ROBB, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was ordered to lie over, under the rule:

S. RES. 286

Whereas the United States has shown leadership in promoting human rights, including the rights of women and girls, and was instrumental in the development of international human rights treaties and norms, including the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW);

Whereas the Senate has already agreed to the ratification of several important human rights treaties, including the Genocide Convention, the Convention Against Torture, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

Whereas CEDAW establishes a worldwide commitment to combat discrimination against women and girls;

Whereas 165 countries of the world have ratified or acceded to CEDAW and the United States is among a small minority of countries, including Afghanistan, North Korea, Iran, and Sudan, which have not;

Whereas CEDAW is helping combat violence and discrimination against women and girls around the world;

Whereas CEDAW has had a significant and positive impact on legal developments in countries as diverse as Uganda, Colombia, Brazil, and South Africa, including, on citizenship rights in Botswana and Japan, inheritance rights in Tanzania, property rights and political participation in Costa Rica;

Whereas the Administration has proposed a small number of reservations, under-

standings, and declarations to ensure that U.S. ratification fully complies with all constitutional requirements, including states' and individuals' rights;

Whereas the legislatures of California, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, South Dakota, and Vermont have endorsed U.S. ratification of CEDAW;

Whereas more than one hundred U.S.-based, civic, legal, religious, education, and environmental organizations, including many major national membership organizations, support U.S. ratification of CEDAW;

Whereas ratification of CEDAW would allow the United States to nominate a representative to the CEDAW oversight committee; and

Whereas 2000 is the 21st anniversary of the adoption of CEDAW by the United Nations General Assembly: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Senate Foreign Relations Committee should hold hearings on the convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); and

(2) the Senate should act on CEDAW by July 19, 2000, the 20th anniversary of the signing of the convention by the United States.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 287—EX-
PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
SENATE REGARDING U.S. POLICY
TOWARD LIBYA**

Mr. HELMS (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 287

Whereas 270 people, including 189 Americans, were killed in the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland on December 21, 1988;

Whereas this bombing was one of the worst terrorist atrocities in American history;

Whereas 2 Libyan suspects in the attack are scheduled to go on trial in The Netherlands on May 3, 2000;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council has required Libya to cooperate throughout the trial, pay compensation to the families if the suspects are found guilty, and end support for international terrorism before multilateral sanctions can be permanently lifted;

Whereas Libya is accused in the 1986 La Belle discotheque bombing in Germany which resulted in the death of 2 United States servicemen;

Whereas in March 1999, 6 Libyan intelligence agents including Muammar Qadhafi's brother-in-law, were convicted in absentia by French courts for the bombing of UTA Flight 772 that resulted in the death of 171 people, including 7 Americans;

Whereas restrictions on United States citizens' travel to Libya, known informally as a travel ban, have been in effect since December 11, 1981, as a result of "threats of hostile acts against Americans" according to the Department of State;

Whereas on March 22, 4 United States State Department officials departed for Libya as part of a review of the travel ban; and

Whereas Libyan officials have interpreted the review as a positive signal from the United States, and according to a senior Lib-

yan official "the international community was convinced that Libya's foreign policy position was not wrong and there is a noticeable improvement in Libya's relations with the world": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Libya's refusal to accept responsibility for its role in terrorist attacks against United States citizens suggests that the imminent danger to the physical safety of United States travelers continues;

(2) the Administration should consult fully with Congress in considering policy toward Libya, including disclosure of any assurances received by the Qadhafi regime relative to the judicial proceedings in The Hague; and

(3) the travel ban and all other United States restrictions on Libya should not be eased until all cases of American victims of Libyan terrorism have been resolved and the Government of Libya has cooperated fully in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Senators HELMS and LAUTENBERG in submitting this resolution on the travel ban and other U.S. restrictions on Libya.

At the end of March, a team of State Department officials visited Libya as part of a review of the ban that has been in effect since 1981 on U.S. travel to Libya. State Department officials were in Libya for 26 hours, visiting hotels and other sites. Based on the findings of this delegation, the State Department is preparing a recommendation for the Secretary of State to help her determine whether there is still "imminent danger to . . . the physical safety of United States travellers," as the law requires in order to maintain the ban.

Because of the travel ban, American citizens can travel to Libya only if they obtain a license from the Department of the Treasury. In addition, the State Department must first validate a passport for travel to Libya.

The travel ban was imposed originally for safety reasons and predates the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103. But lifting the ban now, just as the two Libyan suspects are about to go on trial in The Netherlands for their role in that atrocity, will undoubtedly be viewed as a gesture of good will to Colonel Qadhafi.

After State Department announced that it would send this consular team to Libya, a Saudi-owned daily paper quoted a senior Libyan official as saying the one-day visit by the U.S. team was a "step in the right direction." The official said the visit was a sign that "the international community was convinced that Libya's foreign policy position was not wrong and there is a noticeable improvement in Libya's relations with the world."

Libya's Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation said the visit demonstrated that the Administration "has realized the importance of Libya" and that Libya considers "that the negative chapter in our relations is over."